

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 XMB-04 CU-04 L-03 /025 W

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R 301310Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7698

UNCLAS LIBREVILLE 0812

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, OEXC, GB

SUBJ: INFORMATIQUE DELEGATION

REF: A. STATE 066795; B. LIBREVILLE 132

1. EMBASSY PREPARED LETTER AS DESCRIBED PARA 7 REFTEL
B. PRIOR TO DELIVERY, EMBOFF SHOWED DRAFT OF LETTER TO
INFORMATIQUE DIRECTOR INGONGUI AND WENT OVER FAMILIAR
GROUND OF WHY GABON DID NOT QUALIFY FOR AID GRANT AS-
SISTANCE. FACED WITH FACT OF TURN-DOWN IN LETTER, INGONGUI
REQUESTED THAT EMBASSY HOLD OFF SENDING IT TO PRESIDENT IN
PRESENT FORM. EMBOFF AGREED THAT MORE POSITIVE APPROACH
MIGHT BE TAKEN BY GIVING MORE EMPHASIS TO FACILI-
TATIVE ASSISTANCE THAT AID PREPARED TO OFFER.
2. FOLLOWING MEETING WITH INGONGUI, EMBASSY RECEIVED NOTES
OF INFORMATIQUE DELEGATIONS MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON LAST
DECEMBER. NOTES INDICATED THAT DURING MEETINGS WITH SER/IT,
AGREEMENT WAS REACHED WITH INGONGUI WHEREBY HE WAS TO SEND
OFFICIAL REQUEST FOR AID ASSISTANCE THROUGH EMBASSY AND
SER/IT WAS TO REPLY WITH PROPOSAL CONTAINING RECOMMEN-
DATIONS FOR TRAINING AND COST OF SAME TO GOG. COMMENT:
NOW BECOMES APPARENT THAT INGONGUI'S ERROR, INNOCENT
OR NOT, WAS NOT DRAFTING LETTER FROM BONGO, BUT PHRASING
IT IN TERMS CLEARLY REQUESTING GRANT ASSISTANCE. END COMMENT.
3. EMBOFF MET AGAIN WITH INGONGUI APRIL 27 AND OBTAINED
MORE SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION OF TRAINING DESIRED:
A) POST-GRADUATE TRAINING IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND DATA
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SYSTEMS -- INGONGUI EXPLAINED THAT INFORMATIQUE COM-

MITTEE WANTED TO SEND UP TO FIVE UNIVERSITY GRADUATES EACH YEAR TO U.S. FOR ONE-YEAR POST GRADUATE COURSE IN GENERAL FIELD OF "INFORMATIQUE";
B) BUREAU OF CENSUS 12-MONTH PROGRAM OF TRAINING IN COURSE NO. 5, COMPUTER DATA SYSTEMS -- INGONGUI WANTS TO SEND TWO STUDENTS ANNUALLY TO THIS COURSE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD APPRECIATE SER/IT PREPARING PROPOSAL BASED ON ABOVE TRAINING NEEDS. WOULD BE HELPFUL IF BASIC RECOMMENDATIONS AND COST COULD BE TELEGRAPHED TO EMBASSY FOR IMMEDIATE TRANSMITTAL TO INGONGUI. IF POSSIBLE, COST SHOULD BE BROKEN DOWN INTO A) TUITION; B) STUDENT MAINTENANCE; C) TRAVEL; AND D) AID FEES (IF ANY). FYI: INGONGUI HAS BUREAU OF CENSUS BROCHURE LISTING DIFFERENT COSTS DEPENDING ON WHETHER OR NOT CANDIDATES FOR TRAINING ARE SPONSORED BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION SUCH AS UNDP.DEJARNETTE

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